

SLINGSHOT

Vol. 1 - No. 1

Wednesday, March 9, 1988

Berkeley, CA

ACTIVIST SEIZED BY UC POLICE

On Tuesday, March 1st, UC Berkeley police arrested long time activist Billy Nessen on campus. They were serving a warrant from Contra Costa County for felonious vandalism and conspiracy in connection with a demonstration that took place 6 months ago at the Concord Naval Weapons Station. When 7000 people went out to Concord to protest the war in Central America after the attempted murder of peace activist Brian Wilson who was blocking the tracks with his own body accompanied by several other protesters, to stop the arms shipments to El Salvador. Brian Willson was purposely run over by an arms train, he lost both his legs and had serious head injuries.

Outraged by this sadistic act of war, hundreds of people decided to take up direct action while Rev. Jesse Jackson was desperately looking for some more votes for the elections. During his speech protesters started to rip up the tracks at the spot where Brian Willson got hit a couple of days earlier. Hundreds of people carried out this non-

violent celebration of resistance, and many of them made it possible by bringing crowbars and other tools. They succeeded in the removal of 120 feet of railroad tracks.

Now six months later, long after this big wave of protests has calmed down, the FBI/police are once again singling out a well known activist and blaming this great collective effort on one person. At the same time members of the Nuremberg Actions group, who are still camping out at the tracks to protest the war, are getting attacked by the local rednecks and an army investigation came to the conclusion that it was Brian Willson's own fault that the "accident" happened.

Billy was released on OR after spending one night in jail. Now he strongly needs your support. He's being arraigned on Thursday morning, March 10th at 9 AM at the Martinez court house.

Please come!

Take Hwy. 24 to I-680 Marina Vista Exit (last exit before Benicia Bridge). Go

3 miles on Marina Vista Blvd. (to the left). Take left fork, following signs to county offices. 3 blocks to Ward St. The Bray Courthouse is at 1010 Ward St. in Martinez.

For car-pool information call 653-2407.

For more information about the case, call attorney Linda Fullerton at 232-4000, and if you want to make any contributions you can write a check to Linda Fullerton and mail it to the Billy Nessen Defense Committee P.O. Box 4157, BERKELEY, CA 94704

WOMEN IMPRISONED

On Saturday, March 5, 250 demonstrators (mostly women) gathered to celebrate International Women's Day, to oppose the U.S. prison system and to fuel the fight for our emancipation from the patriarchal society we live in. The demonstration emphasized the imprisonment of Puerto Rican political prisoners being held in the Lexington control unit in Kentucky: a "character modification unit characterized by systematic use of sensory deprivation, extreme isolation and degradation." Michael Quinlan, director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons has said that these conditions are necessary to control the women because their radical politics make them a threat to the community and "escape prone."

Lexington, although possibly the worst, is not the only facility of this kind. All across the country women are held as political prisoners, living in brutal

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TORCHLIGHT MARCH AGAINST APARTHEID

Daily exploitation and repression of Black people in South Africa continues without let up. Anti-apartheid organizations get gag orders placed on them. In the townships of Soweto, South African soldiers break a year-long rent strike. In KwaZulu, Chief Buthelezi continues his attacks on the anti-apartheid youth in Pietermaritzburg, backed by the South African military.

South African apartheid is no less brutal or racist than it was in 1985-86 when many U.S. politicians, corporations, and university officials

made a big show of being against apartheid.

Today we can see that this show had nothing to do with fighting apartheid and everything to do with defending the interests of imperialism in South Africa. Instead of a real fight against the South African racists, we get toothless sanctions, sham corporate pullouts, and phoney divestments. Instead of putting heat on apartheid racism, politicians and officials like our U.C. Regents worked to chill-out the anti-apartheid movement in the U.S. with empty declarations on

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Nonviolent Occupation / Blockade

As the proliferation of nuclear weapons threatens people and the survival of the planet and her ecosystems, many of us see the stopping of nuclear weapons testing as fundamental to everyone's safety. We realize that when people take into their own hands the responsibility of stopping testing, they block the relative few within our government who continue to divert funds to weapon-making and testing. This money is desperately needed for human services and care.

The Nevada landscape, once home to the Shoshone Indians, has been raped by years of continual weapons-related and weapons

-effects tests (about 700 underground tests and about 90 above ground tests!) four of which were hydrogen bombs in the "Atoms for Peace" program in the 50's. About ten percent of the underground tests leak. The government, however reports that nothing has leaked into the atmosphere, failing to consider the ground water table to be part of the atmosphere.

With these facts in mind, about 5,000 people are heading out to Nevada Test Site March 11-20 to create an alternative peace community and hundreds will commit civil disobedience in one scenario or another. Some are planning backcountry actions and will head toward Ground Zero to reclaim the

land for better uses. Six women from Colorado are in jail in Tonopah, 150 miles from NTS, for 6 months for performing a healing ritual on the site. The government is serious about trying to intimidate us but their plan is backfiring again.

We invite you to join us in celebration as we say,
"STOP THE TESTING- WE ARE RECLAIMING THE LAND TAKEN FROM NATIVE AMERICANS TO SET IT FREE TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE GOOD OF PEOPLE, ANIMALS AND THE WILDLIFE OF THE REGION."

For more information about the action or transportation to NTS please call Kami days: 621-0858

KICK G.E. OFF CAMPUS

Kick G.E. off campus!

General Electric is heavily involved in supporting the administration's war against the people of Central America:

*GE participates in the Reagan administration's sanctions against Nicaragua by refusing to ship spare parts for GE equipment used in Nicaragua's hospitals and medical schools.

*GE supplies the M-134 Minigun machine gun to the government of El Salvador. The Minigun fires up to 6,000 bullets per minute or 100 bullets every second. The Minigun is used in the Duarte government's savage war against its own people. When mounted on planes like General Dynamic's A-37 bomber, it will tear a person apart.

GE is also a major supplier to the U.S. nuclear arsenal, it is integral in shaping U.S. nuclear policy for its own profit.

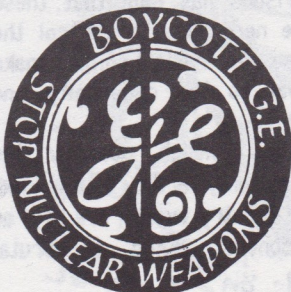
* GE makes parts for MORE NUCLEAR WEAPONS SYSTEMS THAN ANY OTHER CORPORATION, including the neutron generator, the "trigger" that starts the reaction in EVERY U.S. NUCLEAR BOMB.

GE doesn't always wait for the government to come to them. Often they approach the government to encourage militaristic policies which are profitable for them.

Two GE board members wrote into the 1968 Republican national platform that Nixon seek speedy development of the B-1 bomber. GE then became a major B-1 contractor.

The top 20 weapons contractors poured \$3.6 million into the 1984 elections. GE ranked 4th among them, giving over \$200,000 to congressional supporters of Reagan's \$2.3 trillion arms buildup, including many of the committees that handle military spending bills.

On Wednesday, March 9, GE will be recruiting all day here at this "educational" institution. Come join the daylong picket in front of the T-6 building.



THE SUMMER OF ANARCHY '88

This coming summer a lot of Anarchists, Punks, Hippies and other folks without labels are going to travel around to go to different events, parties and demonstrations throughout North America. We call it the summer of Anarchy, so if you're bored with what society is offering you, and you refuse to get sucked into the world of yuppie-dom you might want to join the caravan. I'm sure it would be a real alternative to your 9 to 5 job, your studying, your summer vacation with your parents, etc. etc.

From July 1 to 4 the Anarchist survival gathering is happening in Toronto. It is the third gathering like that since a group of older Chicago Anarchists called for such an event in May 86 to remember the 100th anniversary of the Haymarket tragedy and to their surprise a whole bunch of young punks showed up. There was another Anarchist gathering last summer in Minneapolis, and with these events some sort of Anarchist Network got started throughout the US and

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BARRINGTON vs. The WORLD

The success of the co-op wide referendum to reverse 100% turnover decision at Barrington is cause for rejoice, as are most things in Barrington, but it is not a victory for Barringtonians or their way of life. Rather, it was a prevented defeat, a repelling of one blatant attack. There will be more - some visible, some not - attacks and if Barringtonians (and sympathizers) think they have anything but a fight ahead of them, they will not keep their house long.

Barrington is an island in a cancerous and increasingly hostile social order. It is being squeezed from all sides: there are still officials in City Hall who want Barrington gone, the university would love nothing more than to level the building to the ground, and the bureaucrats at co-op central office (those who claim to represent us) have now publically stated that they want Barringtonianism wiped off their brochure. As this society is moved farther and farther to the right, Barrington occupies an ever more unbearably hot seat. Every move they make is viewed through an unsympathetic media spotlight. Their situation is not much different from Nicaragua's. Their enemy is the same.

The pressure to close Barrington is not unrelated to the university's plans to cut back on funding for the Afro-American Studies Dept. or to completely dissolve the left-leaning, 60's born, Conservation Resources Studies Dept. It is not unrelated to the city's stepped-up military maneuvers on Telegraph and in People's Park. And it is not unrelated to the FBI's infiltration and surveillance during the last few years of hundreds of political organizations in this country.

Even without 100% turnover, the hostile forces will be able to assert so much pressure on Barrington that they can effectively squeeze it to death. And it may not be dramatic. Quietly and slowly its spirit will dry out under the encroaching heat of this oppressive TV commercial-value

no-think no-cry mind-teargas that flows from the same political canisters as the gases lowered to diffuse the revolts of the 60's.

Hey look around to the other co-ops. Some of them may soon be ready to sign into the Greek system. They don't worry about referendums. They don't worry about anything. They have already been closed down - any dissenting parts of their minds are being closed down. Paths veering from upward-monotony are getting shorter--Road Closed. In all of the north-side co-ops the television is slowly consolidating its power. Every year it draws a bigger and bigger crowd. For hours every night groups of students gather round the sacred shit box and let its mind-numbing rays singe the more

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MARCH

divestment. The Campaign Against Apartheid feels it is time to fight these maneuvers and build the anti-apartheid movement.

At a time when the brave youth of Palestine have gone into action against their own oppressors and one of apartheid's biggest backers, Israeli Zionism, it's time to go into action ourselves. When the anti-racist struggle is again breaking out on university campuses it is time to target the enemy here at home.

To build a powerful anti-apartheid movement we must take action. The Campaign is calling for everyone to come to a Torchlight March on March 9, gathering at Biko (Sproul) Plaza at 6pm. Taking to the streets against racism and imperialism is the way to build the anti-apartheid struggle. Lighting the streets in solidarity with those fighting racism and oppression from

Soweto to Gaza to the U.S. is how we must rebuild the movement.

Bring your friends, banners, and noisemakers!

South Africa will be free!

--Campaign Against Apartheid

critical sections of their brains, melting thought into obedience, and reality into a 30 second pepsi commercial. Drink pepsi and you'll get more sex. Write in bluebooks, you'll make more money. Drink another beer and you won't feel the pain.

The Berkeley Slingshot is a radical, independent weekly newspaper. We are a loose group of Berkeley activists and we want to make the Slingshot into a forum for the speechless of this society. If your writing or art-work is too controversial for the mainstream press, it is just about right for the Slingshot, as long as you do not belong to some authoritarian party with an already existing publication. So this is a call to submit your articles, letters, graphics, comix, etc.

Mail it to:

The Slingshot

P.O. Box 4157

Berkeley, CA 94704

or leave it in our box in 613 Eshleman or the UC Berkeley campus. We also need more help on the staff, if you're interested get in touch.



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SUMMER OF ANARCHY

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Canada. So Toronto will be a place to see old friends and make new contacts with activists from different places and find out what they are doing. Besides that there will be different workshops where we can talk about the growing Anti-Authoritarian movement and where we want to take it. And about our problems with today's society and how to approach them, there will be a big welcoming party and a demonstration - a warchest tour to point out the worst corporations/banks/ businesses in town.

During the same time the Rainbow gathering is happening somewhere in east Texas. The Rainbow gatherings have been taking place since the early 70's as some sort of back to Nature movement. Every summer a lot of people get together to camp out in a national Park without electricity, amplified music or alcohol (there are booze-free zones). A big and diverse crowd is participating at the national gatherings in the summer. Each year they are located in a different state and up to 20,000 people are expected to camp out together. The ideal is that everybody helps to make it happen. Everybody should bring some food, help cooking, cleaning up, etc. Hopefully we will have our own A-circle with a kitchen on the site. Officially the Rainbow gathering is taking place on the first week of July, but a lot of people stay a lot longer than a week.

Then from July 18 to 21 we have the democratic convention in Atlanta, GA., and about one month later the republican one is taking place in New Orleans, LA from August 15-18. Hopefully a lot of people will go out there to demonstrate against this phoney type of democracy and keep up the spirit of Chicago '68 and San Francisco in '84. I heard a group of people are organizing a Rock against Reagan type show for Atlanta and as soon as we know more about the conventions we'll let you know.

I'm probably going to leave the Bay Area at the beginning of June to go to the Rainbow gathering and stay there for a couple of weeks before heading up to Toronto for the

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going to all those events. If you want to find out more about the Anarchist gathering in Toronto contact:

Atlanta and New Orleans. If anybody is thinking about doing the same route (or parts of it) please contact me so we could make plans about a caravan
Anarchist gathering. After that I want to go down south again and possibly drop by Rainbow again before the presidential conventions in

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conditions, constantly humiliated and terrorized by guards who have complete control over their lives. One such prison is just 50 miles away--the Pleasanton federal prison where Saturday's demonstration took place. Pleasanton

holds several women as political prisoners, both North American and Puerto Rican.

The demonstration was especially inspiring because of the solidarity and the positive energy created by the women present. After a march along the edge of the military base which contains the prison, we gathered at a site half a mile away from the prison itself. There various speakers described conditions within the prisons, including examples of women being shackled to their beds during childbirth, total isolation, separation from their children, and constant

psychological abuse. One speaker gave a detailed account of sexual assault in which male guards shoved their fists into the rectums of female political prisoners, claiming to be searching for "contraband." When asked why they couldn't use X-rays, they replied, "We can't get what we want from X-rays."

The rally also included songs by Swing Shift, a group of singers who often perform at rallies, and a dramatic participatory ritual. While chanting spells and incantations, we threw symbols of our oppression, such as sexist advertising, into a fire. We also released colorful helium balloons which carried a banner reading "FREE OUR SISTERS" toward the prison in an act of support for the women inside Pleasanton.

Leaving the demonstration we felt stronger. The experience at Pleasanton was an expression of our determination to confront and undermine patriarchal behavior and male control.

YOU'VE BEEN RIPPED OFF

instruments of torture

ALWAYS. THE DRIER PANTLINER.

Do you attract wimps? RABID

sex toys

SEXUAL THREAT?

THE LIES MEN TELL

"Are you sure it won't hurt?"

the virgin bride: a thing of the past?

STIMULANTS

DIET AIDS

357mg 100 - \$6.00

5mg 500 \$19.50

325mg 100c

EPHEDRINE SULPHATE

WATER SPLASH

LIPCOL

turn-on secrets

STICK-ON ESTROGE

CELLULITE-FREE AT LAST!

SEXY SHOES

Does your face need a lift?

ORIGINAL SINISTER

Having a Little extra Sweet 'N Low on hand gave Geraldine a feeling of real security.